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UMMRA Info

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UMMRA

UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2, FALL 1998

UMMRA

CHANCELLOR'S GREETING

To inaugurate a new and busy year for the University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees Association, here is a special message--just for us--from the Interim Chancellor, Sam Schuman: *I'm delighted to join the UMM Community in welcoming back the UMMRA to another interesting and productive academic year on the Morris campus. As you have surely noticed, this is going to be a season of bricks and mortar (and dust and noise!), as we move ahead with construction of the new Science addition and the Regional Fitness Center. (If you have not done so recently, take a drive down Second Street to survey the building activity.) I join all my colleagues in appreciation of your past contributions to our University, and in recognition of the important roles you continue to play in UMM's present. Best wishes for a great year!*

EMPOWERING UMMRA

Our Chancellor has graciously agreed to cover up to \$300 worth of our duplicating and postage costs through his office (the Fund Development Office already provides us with mailing labels). The UMMRA dues and bank account are separate, allowing us to act and speak as an independent organization, but the new funding gives us a useful "presence" on campus. It should be possible now for us to better assist the University in serving its retirees (and to mail more newsletters).

This summer we also entered into a cooperative effort in record-keeping. Your president signed a written agreement with Sarah Mattson, the UMM Director of Human Resources, which will permit her to release to UMMRA the names and addresses of all retirees and to update this information when her office receives notice of a change. In return, UMMRA agrees not to use the names and addresses for other purposes (don't blame your junk mail on us, in other words).

Another aspect of the new record-keeping set-up is that we now receive information from the West Central Experiment Station concerning its retirees. We are on the mailing list of the Extension Service, too. University College employees are already included on UMM's lists. The West Central School of Agriculture retirees are on the list we receive from the UMM Fund Office. Thus we hope we've covered everyone. Please write or call Ellen Ordway, our Treasurer, if you have questions or know of someone who may have been left out.

Chancellor Schuman has also indicated his willingness to see that UMMRA has space somewhere on campus (more than just the mail drop at the Faculty Center). Space is at a premium right now because of the construction, so your Board has not pressed this issue in these first busy fall weeks, but we will continue to pursue the matter and are grateful to the Chancellor for his support.

REMINDER ON DUES

Hello? Not all of you have paid your 1998-99 dues yet. **THEY WERE DUE by September 15** but Secretary-Treasurer Ellen Ordway will still gladly accept them now. Why not bring your \$5.00 (\$10.00 for a couple) to the October 14 UMMRA luncheon at the Cafe in the Mall? Yes, you do also have to pay for lunch. And speaking of lunch...

FIRST UMMRA LUNCHEON

The first UMMRA luncheon of the 1998-99 year is coming up fast. PLEASE plan to join us at NOON at the CAFE IN THE MALL (back room) on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14. Doris Benson has organized a wonderful get-together for everyone within reach of Morris (including any of you who happen to be visiting on that date). We meet and eat, then have a brief talk and chance for questions and comments. The speaker this time is: (suspense, suspense. . .) CAROL McCANNON, from UMM Student Activities. Not only can she tell us about the 1998-99 Performing Arts Series and about all sorts of other exciting things that will be going on at UMM this year, but also Carol is the Service Learning Coordinator. She will tell us how a host of willing UMM students are helping in the community and how some of us can help as well.

MORE LUNCHESES

After October 14, your next official chance to get together with your UMMRA colleagues (the unofficial get-togethers are up to you) will not be till February--WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1999. But look who Doris Benson has invited to speak to us on that date: LOWELL RASMUSSEN! UMM's popular Vice Chancellor for Physical Plant and Master Planning, the fellow on whose capable shoulders rests responsibility for supervising all the campus construction going on, has agreed to take time out to come and explain everything to us and answer our questions. Mark your calendar now, so as not to miss this session.

By the time of our third luncheon, everyone in the University will be gearing up, mega-style, for the switch to semesters, with students about to register for the fall of 1999. What will this historic change mean in the way UMM operates? How will the change affect the area from which you retired? How will it affect *you*? Professor PEH NG (Mathematics), who is Sam Schuman's special appointee this year for the semester conversion, will address those questions and more, as our luncheon guest on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1999. Peh (whose last name is pronounced "ung") is the most recent winner of the UMM Alumni Association Teaching Award and is great fun to talk with!

All the luncheons run from noon to 1:30 P.M. at the Cafe in the Mall on Atlantic Avenue in Morris. It's pay-as-you-go, very informal, and if you can only join us for coffee, that's OK, too.

EXISTENTIAL UMMRA

Nothing like sending out a newsletter for establishing our existence! You, our members, recognized all along that we were "for real," of course, but people in town suddenly took notice of us and the all-University Retirees Association even included a reprint of our newsletter as an insert in theirs for this fall. In fact, Morris was featured in UMRA's opening program of the academic year, a luncheon at the Campus Club in Minneapolis on Tuesday, September 22. Bettina Blake spoke to an enthusiastic audience on "Imagining Morris: Reflections on Two Decades at UMM." Also representing UMM at this event were Laird Barber, who is our delegate on the UMRA Board of Directors, and Helen Briggs, spouse of Rodney A. Briggs who was the first chief executive of the Morris liberal arts campus.

SCIENCE PROJECT CEREMONY

Don't forget the official groundbreaking and dedication for the UMM Science expansion project on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 at 11:00 A.M. near the Science Building. October 16 to 18 is also Homecoming Weekend, with attendant festivities on campus and off, and that afternoon is the UMM-UM Duluth football game, so you might as well make a weekend of it and plan to be around. Former students dearly love to see some familiar faculty and staff faces when they return to their alma mater.

MORRIS SENIOR CENTER

Do you receive the newsletter that our own Judy Nord sends out from the Senior Center in Morris? If not, why not? Call her at 320/589-2951 to get signed up. The newsletter often contains valuable information for senior citizens. Among the latest announcements are:

FLU SHOTS: Wed. Oct. 14, 1-4 P.M.
Wed. Oct. 21, " "

55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS:

Wed. Nov. 4, 10-3 P.M. (renewal course).

HERITAGE PRESERVERS

The Minnesota Humanities Commission grant project for 1999 is being worked on by a committee of devoted senior volunteers headed by Judy Nord and backed up by UMM Grants Development Officer Tom Mahoney and his assistant, Rita Bolluyt. Leona Classen, Marvel Wagner, Laird Barber, and Phyllis Gausman are among those preparing some fascinating programs for this coming spring. Please watch for further details soon.

RETIREEES REUNION, 1999

Guess who's working on this project? Charlotte Eul, that's who! She has already talked with Maggie (VonHelligwig) Dylla about a retirees reunion again in May of 1999, at the time of the Faculty/Staff Recognition Dinner, and you can bet that Charlotte will come up with some nifty plans for us. We know you have a busy life, but do start arranging things now so that you can be in Morris in mid-May. The more retirees come back, the more fun it is, and the more we show support for the current staff and faculty of UMM.

NEWS, NEWS...

The entire UMM community was saddened by the death in August of retired professor of English Dorothy Barber. For those who wish to make a memorial donation in Dorothy's memory, the family suggests giving to the Imholte Scholarship Fund at UMM.

Our former chancellor, Dave Johnson, has a new address as of October 15. It is:

1235 Yale Place, #1705
Minneapolis, MN 55403

and his telephone number is 612/333-6702. (He asked Judy Riley to distribute this information, so we will, too.)

Please add Betty Wu to the list of 1997-98 retirees, along with Sinmin, whose name appeared earlier. The Wus moved to California in early September.

Other retired UMM mathematicians who have gone to California include Professors John Detlef and Sen Fan. Sun, wine, surf, and math???...

REGIONAL FITNESS CENTER

Work is progressing rapidly on the new Regional Fitness Center. Have you made your pledge of support yet? Keeping fit in retirement is important and, later on, you want to be able to tell your grandchildren that you contributed to making the Center possible, so don't forget to send in a pledge and make your first donation before the 1998 tax year ends.

HAPPY FALL SEASON, EVERYBODY!